

Stated Meeting, December 3d, 1875.

Present, 14 members.

Vice-President, Mr. FRALEY, in the Chair.

Visitors. Mr. Schwartz of the Detroit Scientific Association, and Mr. Morgan Hart.

A letter acknowledging the receipt of Proceedings No. 94, was received from the Victoria Institute, dated London, Nov. 8th, 1875.

A communication respecting a so-called Calendarium perpetuum mobile, to be exhibited in 1876 by M. Kesselmeier, was received from Mr. C. H. Meyer, Consul for the German Empire at Philadelphia.

Donations for the Library were received from the Netherland Botanical Society; Cobden Club; Glasgow Philosophical Society; Silliman's Journal; Academy of Natural Sciences; Penn Monthly; Journal of Pharmacy; Mr. Nyström; and Prof. Kerr of North Carolina.

Mr. Britton exhibited and explained certain improvements in his laboratory burettes.

Mr. Lesley described the occurrence of certain Carboniferous valleys of erosion, discovered by Prof. Stevenson and Mr. White during the field-work season just closed, in Washington and Greene counties, Pennsylvania, on the horizon of the great sand-rock of the Lower Barren Measures, below the Pittsburg coal.

Mr. Price communicated a memorandum of the places around Philadelphia recently visited by him, where boulders may be seen. This list of points in the present limits of the city may be of historical interest at a future day.

I have lately visited the following excavations through gravel outside the built area of the city. In all are found pebbles and stones rounded by the action of water, and stones of all sizes up to some hundred pounds, unrounded, angular, and but slightly rubbed. Where the gravel is purest and deepest, and undisturbed, stratification is seen, and at a depth of eight or ten feet a black band of cemented gravel divides the gravel from the fine sand below:

South side South Street east of new bridge; south side Woodland Ave-

nue, both east and west of Woodlands Cemetery; 46th Street, both south and north of Woodland Avenue; 45th Street, south and north of Kingsessing Avenue, and north of Spruce Street; Chestnut Street, west of 45th and 47th Streets; intersection of Pennsylvania and Connecting Railroads; Girard Avenue, west of 48th Street; Elm, west of Girard Avenue; Girard Avenue east of the bridge, in the Park; in the Park east of Connecting Railroad bridge over the Reading Railroad; Jefferson and 28th Streets; Cumberland Street and 15th; and 12th and Cumberland Streets; also east of Reading Railroad bridge over the Schuylkill, and around the basin in the East Park.

The "erratics" are found at all heights, twenty to one hundred feet above tide, both sides of the Schuylkill.

Prof. Chase described some indications of Saturn's importance in influencing the early planetary aggregations of our system when the Sun was in a nebulous condition. He introduced an equation between the masses and distances of the four outer planets, which accorded with other present indications of nebular activity in Saturn.

The Treasurer's annual report was, on motion, postponed, on account of his serious illness.

Pending nomination No. 791 was read.

Mr. Price presented the following report on the application of the funds of the Michaux Legacy:

December 3, 1875.

TO THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY:

I respectfully make report in relation to the expenditure of the income of the Michaux Fund placed at the disposal of the Fairmount Park Commission.

The Botanical Committee of the Society, Aubrey H. Smith, Chairman, revised the list of trees proposed to be imported last spring; and nine hundred and ten trees were imported from James Booth & Sons, Hamburg, Germany, and arrived and were planted early in May last. They were fine, healthy, well-grown trees, and were generally in good order when received. There were one hundred and forty-five species and varieties of Maple, Horse-Chestnut, Ailantus, Alder, Birch, Hornbeam, Spanish-Chestnut, Catalpa, Beech, Laburnum, Ash, Larch, Poplar, Prunus, Pterocarya, Pyrus, Oak, Lorbis, Linden, Willow.

There are now growing of this and the previous importation by the same Michaux Fund, one thousand one hundred and seventeen trees and shrubs, of two hundred and sixty-seven species and varieties. These are all in the nursery, where they will remain until of a size to be planted out in the "Michaux Grove" and elsewhere over the Park.

I have collected from the Woodlands Cemetery, formerly the seat of William Hamilton, and from the Marshall Garden, and with the aid of Dr. George Smith of Delaware County, and Aubrey H. Smith, Esq., from other places, considerable quantities of acorns and seeds without cost, and had them planted in the Nursery of the Park, in furtherance of Mr. Michaux's purpose, to wit: of the European Oak, the English White Oak, Red, Scarlet, White, Black, Post, Willow, Swamp, Chestnut, Rock and Overcup White Oaks; and the seeds of the Sweet Gum. The Bartram acorns came from Humphrey Marshall of Marshallton, Chester county; and a lot of them, separately planted, were procured by Dr. Leidy from a forest tree, near Columbus, N. J. Mr. A. H. Smith, in sending these says, "If these, or any of them, germinate we shall have an authentic specimen of the Bartram oak at last."

In addition to the duty of making the Society acquainted with the manner in which its funds have been used, I have in view the purpose to invite through your publication, the contribution to the Fairmount Park Nursery, of acorns and seeds of all rare forest trees that will stand our climate, by friends of the Park, and lovers of trees and science wheresoever they may be, with the expectation that the Park will in the future become a point of distribution of rare trees to other Parks and of their fruits.

The Park Commission stipulated with this Society, March 12, 1870, that after planting the Michaux Grove, any surplus of the income of the Michaux Fund "shall be devoted to the cultivation of Oaks of every variety capable of cultivation in our climate, in the Park Nursery, which Oaks, to the extent of two of each kind cultivated, (shall) be hereafter distributed to other Public Parks in the United States." Of acorns and seeds the only limitation would be in the production of the trees.

ELI K. PRICE,

*Chairman of the Committee of Fairmount Park upon Trees and Nurseries,
and Chairman of the Committee of the Society on the Michaux Fund.*

On motion of Mr. Price, it was

Resolved, That Thos. O'Donnell and Albert S. Allshause be respectfully invited to furnish this Society, at each of its meetings, a report of their borings on the south side of Elm Avenue, near the Centennial buildings, and to furnish the museum of the Society with specimens of the rocks bored through.

On motion of Mr. Price, it was

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to make arrangements for the delivery of the address of the Hon. Wm. Strong on the life and character of the Hon. Horace Binney.

Mr. Price, Mr. Fraley, Mr. H. J. Williams, Mr. Hopper and Judge Sharswood were appointed the committee.

On motion of Mr. Lesley, the Secretaries were authorized to complete the set of the Society's Proceedings and Transactions in the Library of the University of Pennsylvania, receiving in return such duplicates as are in that Library.

The Secretaries were instructed to prepare a reply to the communication of Herr C. Kesselmeyer, transmitted to this Society by Mr. Chas. H. Meyer, German Consul, and member of the Centennial Commission of the German Empire (224 S. Fourth street, Philadelphia), stating that the regulations of the Society will not admit of a compliance with his request.

And the meeting was adjourned.

Stated Meeting, December 17th, 1875.

Present, 10 members.

Vice-President, Mr. FRALEY, in the Chair.

Donations for the library were received from M. Donisotte of Turin; the Royal Prussian and Belgian Academies; *Revue Politique*; London Nature; Boston Natural History Society; Cambridge Museum; Franklin Institute; Medical News, and the U. S. Department of the Interior.

The committee on the paper of Drs. Le Conte and Horn, entitled "On the Rhyncophora of North America," reported in favor of its publication as a separate Volume (XV, No. 96, of the Proceedings). On motion, it was so ordered, with an appropriation of fifty dollars for illustrations; the Secretary being authorized to commence the minutes of 1876 as No. 97, Vol. XVI.

The Committee to which was referred the Memoir on the Rhyncophora of N. America by Drs. LeConte and Horn, report that they have examined the MSS. and find the following facts.

The memoir consists of about five hundred MSS., equal to about four hundred printed pages, and require a few simple wood cuts in the text, costing about twenty-five dollars, and one lithograph plate costing about twenty-five dollars. Dr. Horn proposes to draw on the wood himself.